

Serial No. 09/339,430 Page 13

REMARKS

Claims 2 and 17 are amended. Claim 18 has been cancelled without prejudice and New Claim 20 added. Thus, by this Amendment, Claims 2 through 14, 17, 19 and 20 are presented for examination.

The Examiner rejected all claims in the pending office action. Claims 17 (the only pending independent claim, added by the prior Amendment) through 19 were rejected as allegedly anticipated by the United States patent of Ackles. Other dependent claims were rejected for reasons restated from prior office actions.

In rejecting the claims on the basis of Ackles, the Examiner relied upon the embodiment disclosed in Figure 19 of that patent. The distinctions between Ackles and the language of Claim 17, as presently amended, were discussed with the Examiner in a telephonic interview held March 18, 2005. During the interview, Applicant's attorney pointed to language of the amended claim, particularly with regard to limitations set forth in subparagraphs "c" and "d", that distinguishes the device of the pending application (especially as illustrated in Figure 2 of the application) from the apparatus illustrated in Figure 19 of

Serial No. 09/339,430 Page 14

Ackles. The new claim language makes it clear that the shaft of the first positioner is directly coupled to a boom so that the outer housing of the first positioner rotates to thereby cause the bracket fixed to the outer housing to rotate through a pan angle while the shaft of the second positioner (which is fixed to the opposite end of the bracket) is directly coupled to the camera so that the camera rotates with the shaft of the second positioner through a tilt angle. The Ackles reference does not show or suggest this structure or any equivalent structure.

Based upon the above discussion, the Examiner stated his agreement that the amended language of Claim 17 overcomes the prior rejection of that claim on the basis of Ackles. A Summary of Interview that was agreed to by the Examiner is enclosed.

New Claim 20 has been added as well as an amendment to the specification to make clear the obvious suitability of the present invention to operation powered by pneumatic, as opposed to hydraulic pressure. This was not discussed with the Examiner during the interview.

Sole independent Claim 17 and the claims that depend therefrom are directed to apparatus for remotely tilting and

Serial No. 09/339,430 Page 15

panning a camera head fixed to a boom. Such apparatus includes, among other limitations, "a first and a second pressure-actuated positioner, each...including an elongated output shaft rotatable with respect to an outer housing"; "shafts of said positioners...vertically and orthogonally disposed...by means of a bracket having one end fixed to the outer housing of said first positioner and an opposed end fixed to the outer housing of said second positioner"; "means for directly coupling said output shaft of said first positioner to said boom so that said outer housing of said positioner and bracket rotate through a pan angle in response to rotation of said output shaft of said first positioner relative to said outer housing"; and "means for directly coupling said output shaft of said second positioner to said camera head so that said camera head rotates through a tilt angle in response to rotation of said output shaft of said second positioner and rotates through said pan angle in response to rotation of said outer housing of said first positioner". For the preceding reasons, such claim language, which makes it clear that pan and tilt motions are achieved in the present invention by the different modes of attachment of a first or upper positioner 48 and a second or lower positioner 54, mutually fixed to opposed ends of a bracket 68, to the end of a boom support 46 and to a camera 14 respectively. In contrast and among numerous

Serial No. 09/339,430 Page 16
other structural distinctions, the outer housing shaft of gear
motor 158 of Ackles (remote from the camera 154 and therefore
analogous to the first positioner of the claimed invention) is
welded to the flange 156 and, therefore, incapable of rotation.

For the foregoing reasons, all presently-pending claims
of this application define patentable inventions. Prompt
allowance and issuance of such claims is therefore earnestly
solicited.

Respectfully submitted,



Elliott N. Kramsky
Registration No. 27,812
Attorney for Applicant

Elliott N. Kramsky, Esq.
LAW OFFICES OF ELLIOTT N. KRAMSKY
5850 Canoga Avenue, Suite 400
Woodland Hills, CA 91367
Ph: (818) 992-5221
Fx: (818) 710-2751